
**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, June 28,
1813, from Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe
Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W.
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James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson

Washington June 28th. 1813.

Dear Sir

From the date of my last letter to you the President has been ill of a bilious fever, of that kind called the remittent. It has perhaps never left him, even for an hour, and occasionally the symptoms have been unfavorable. This is I think the 15th day. Elzey of this place, & Shoaff of Annapolis, with Dr. Tucker attend him. They think he will recover. The first mention'd I have just seen, who reports that he had a good night, & is in a state to take the bark, which indeed he has done on his best day, for nearly a week. I shall see him before I seal this, & note any change, should there be any, from the above statement.

The federalists aided by a the Malcontents have done, and are doing, all the mischief that they can. The nomination to Russia, & Sweden, [the latter made on an intimation, that the crown prince would contribute his good offices to promote peace on fair conditions] they have embarrassed, to the utmost of their

power. The active partizans are King, Giles, and [as respects the first nomination] S Smith. Leib, German & Gilman are habitually in that interest, active, but useful to their party by their votes only. The two members from Louisiana, Gaillard, Stone, Anderson, & Bledsoe,

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are added to that corps, on these questions. They have carried a vote 20 to 14 that the appointment of Mr. Gallatin to the Russian missions, is incompatible, with his station

in the treasury, & appointed a committee to communicate the resolution to the President. They have appointed another committee to confer with him on the nomination to Sweden. The object is to usurp the Executive power in the hands of a faction in the Senate. To this, several mention'd, are not parties, particularly the four last. A committee of the Senate ought to confer with a committee of the President, that is a head of a dept., and not with the ch. Magistrate, for in the latter case a committee of that house is equal to the Executive. To broach the measure, & relieve the President from the pressure, at a time when so little able to bear it, indeed when no pressure what

ever should be made on him, I wrote the committee on the nomination to Sweden, that I was instructed by him to meet them, to give all the information they might desire, of the Executive. They declined the interview. I had intended to pursue the same course respecting the other nomination, had I succeeded in this. Failing, I have declined it. The result is withheld from the President. These men have begun to make calculations, & plans, founded on the presum'd deaths of the President & Vice President, & it has been suggested to me that Giles, is thought of to take the place of the President of the Senate, as soon as the Vice President with draws.

Genl Dearborne is dangerously ill, & genl. Lewis, doing little. Hampton has gone on to that quarter; but I fear on an inactive command. Genl. Wilkinson is expected soon, but I do not know what station will be assignd him. The idea of a comr. in ch. is in circulation, proceeding from the war dept., as I have reason to believe. If so, it will probably, take a more decisive form, when things are prepar'd for it. A security for his the Secty advancement to that station, is I presume the preparation desird. Your friend Jas. Monroe

I have seen the President & found him in the state represented by Dr. Elzey.

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